Amtrak in Oklahoma

Fiscal Year 2025

Amtrak is America's Railroad,® created by Congress to "provide efficient and effective intercity passenger rail mobility consisting of high quality service that is trip-time competitive with other intercity travel options." In FY 2025, the company's 21,000+ employees operated an average of almost 300 intercity trains per day along 47 permanent routes, serving a record 34.5 million passengers. Amtrak's network includes 526 regularly-scheduled stops across 46 states, 3 Canadian provinces, and Washington, DC. Partner-operated Amtrak Connections offer connecting service to additional communities, typically via bus.

Service & Ridership

In FY 2025, Amtrak operated **2 intercity trains per day** on 1 permanent route serving Oklahoma, with **82,845 total passengers** boarding or alighting in the state.[1] Service was provided via the following route:[2]

- **State-Supported Trains**
  - ***Heartland Flyer*** — Oklahoma City - Norman - Ardmore - Ft. Worth (*1 round trip daily*)

As a **State-Supported route**, the *Heartland Flyer* was operated in FY25 in partnership with the **Oklahoma Department of Transportation** (ODOT) and North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG)/Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT). Outside the Boston-to-Washington Northeast Corridor (NEC), Section 209 of the Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act (PRIIA) requires that short- and middle-distance Amtrak routes (i.e., those less than 750 miles in length) be State-Supported; in other words, sponsoring partners fund the majority of those routes' costs and make decisions about schedule, frequency, and other aspects of service.

In FY 2025, sponsoring partners funded a total of $5.7 million in operating payments for the *Heartland Flyer*, helping support a total ridership on that route[3] of 80,767.

Amtrak Connections

Some Amtrak routes offer partner-operated **Amtrak Connections** and/or other interline connections to additional communities, via either bus or other modes of transportation. Many such services are sponsored by one or more of Amtrak's State-Supported partners, or by other public entities; these connections can be vitally important in certain markets. Oklahoma, specifically, supports a bus connection between Oklahoma City and Newton, Kansas, via Wichita, serving passengers on both the *Heartland Flyer* and the Chicago-to-Los Angeles *Southwest Chief*. Tickets are purchasable through Amtrak; detailed, up-to-date information on available connections can be accessed via the booking tool on Amtrak.com.

[1] Total equals sum of all boardings and alightings at in-state stations.
[2] Not all stops shown. Note that certain frequencies may not serve every station listed.
[3] Unlike state- / station-specific ridership, total *route* ridership equals sum of all boardings and alightings divided by two.

Stations

During FY 2025, Amtrak intercity trains made scheduled stops at 5 locations in Oklahoma:

Station (Code)	**2025 Ridership** *(Ons + Offs)*	**Amtrak ADA Responsibility**	**Amtrak ADA Compliance**	**Amtrak ADA Investment**[4]
Ardmore (ADM)	6,553	Partial	FY 26	$3,453,429
Norman (NOR)	13,858	Partial	FY 26	$1,621,912
Oklahoma City (OKC)	57,159	Partial	FY 27	$2,286,107
Pauls Valley (PVL)	3,260	Partial	FY 26	$4,180,843
Purcell (PUR)	2,015	Partial	Complete	$2,263,743
Total:	**82,845**	**5/5**	**In Progress**	**$13,806,034**

Amtrak is working to ensure that its stations are fully accessible to individuals with disabilities. Most Amtrak-served stations are decades old; many were served by other railroads before the company ever existed. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), enacted in 1990, requires that U.S. stations be made accessible; in response, Amtrak developed an ADA Stations Program (ADASP) to bring station components for which the company is responsible into full ADA compliance. ADASP aims to ensure Amtrak provides the best possible service in the shortest possible timeframe; the program will ultimately invest a total of $1.8 billion in 382 communities nationwide, including a **$13.8 million investment in Oklahoma**. All Amtrak-responsible work is targeted for completion by the end of CY 2029.

Detailed profiles of every permanent Amtrak station stop, including current information on accessibility, can be found on the Great American Stations website: https://www.greatamericanstations.com.

Additional Footprint

Amtrak trains are supported by a **turnaround maintenance location** in Oklahoma City (contractor-staffed), which services locomotives and passenger cars.

Host Railroads & On Time Performance

Outside the NEC, most Amtrak trains must travel over other "host" railroads' tracks—and hosts generally control dispatching decisions on the tracks that they own. By law, Amtrak trains are required to receive preference over freight trains (i.e., priority in dispatching), but many host-dispatched trains arrive late at their destinations, and many routes do not meet on-time performance (OTP) standards established by the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA)—affecting millions of passengers per year.

Listed below are the Amtrak routes that operate in Oklahoma, along with each route's major in-state host railroad(s) and full-route customer on-time performance (C-OTP)[5] in FY 2025:

[4] "Amtrak ADA Investment" describes Amtrak's projected total investment in compliance work over the lifetime of ADASP.
[5] C-OTP measures the proportion of customers traveling on a given route who arrive at their destinations on time. Suppose that passengers board a train scheduled to make two stops, and suppose that train is on time at the first stop but arrives late at the second. If all passengers alight at the first stop, C-OTP for that train is 100%; if all passengers alight at the second stop, C-OTP is 0%.

Route	In-State Host(s)	C-OTP
Heartland Flyer	BNSF	51.8%

Amtrak Guest Rewards

At the end of FY 2025, there were approximately 22.4 million members of Amtrak Guest Rewards (AGR), with 62,821 members listing an address in Oklahoma. For more information about AGR, please see: https://www.amtrak.com/guestrewards/home.

Procurement

Amtrak's procurements are subject to "Buy America"-style domestic preference requirements, which the company is proud to meet or exceed. Nationally, Amtrak paid nearly $5.7 billion for goods and services in FY 2025; 99% of that amount was spent domestically, and **$256,000** went to vendors in Oklahoma:

Community	Amount Spent
Oklahoma City	$198,952
Tulsa	$54,803
All Others <$10k	$2,004
Total Payments	**$255,759**

Among the largest in-state payment categories was **information technology services.**

Employment & Compensation

At the end of FY 2025, **5 Amtrak employees** lived in Oklahoma**,** and the company had paid out a total of **$525,521 in base wages and salary** in-state. Nationwide, Amtrak employed more than 21,000 active workers; total base wages and salaries for the year were approximately $2.2 billion.

Current Amtrak Routes in Oklahoma